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PROGRAM On The Line With Bob
ConsidineSTATION WMAL Radio and
ABC Network

DATE May 4, 1965 6:40 P.M.

CITY Washington, D.C.

CLOAK AND DAGGER AGENCY NOW HAS A PR MAN

BOB CONSIDINE: "Hello, everybody. The current ambition of a young daughter of ours is to be a secret agent, she was telling me the other night. I asked her why, and she had an answer that would baffle any card-carrying secret agent. She said, 'you know, learn how to karate, and all that.' I guess it's a pretty good trade if your insurance is paid up.

"Lately in the Soviet Union several of their top undercover men were uncovered long enough to be decorated. The Kremlin's point in doing that, apparently, was to show the populace that it's still in the cloak and dagger business, and have operatives who must have done something real nifty somewhere, somehow.

"Our Central Intelligence Agency now has a public relations man. A few years ago we wouldn't even acknowledge that we had a CIA. It wasn't listed, for example, in the Washington Telephone Directory. Now it has a huge and magnificent building in the Virginia countryside, with a big road sign pointing the way to it. Its new Director, Admiral William F. Raborn said the other day when he was sworn in, that he would try to do a good job, and he added in the next sentence that this was his first, and probably last speech as Director. His predecessors John McCone and Allen Dulles were rather gregarious souls, on the other hand -- made a lot of Washington social functions -- the cocktail rounds, Embassy parties and so forth.

"Dulles was even present at a reception given for Nikita Khrushchev, when the then Russian leader was in Washington. Khrushchev represented everything the CIA had been created to combat, but they met -- not only met -- but Khrushchev dug the tweedy aristocrat in the ribs and playfully suggested that both sides save money by spreading the cost of the spying being done by what are called 'double agents' -- agents that supply secrets to the United States, and the Soviet Union. Mr. Dulles was not amused. I'll be back friends, with a hush-hush footnote . . .

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